[19th December 1953

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" That question does not arise, since we are perfectly aware that the records of the Labour Commissioner are correct. If the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is going to contest it, it is open to him to submit that these records are wrong, and then we shall take action."

Issue of liquor permits.

* 168 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many liquor permits were issued to individuals in the State during the years 1952 and 1953;

(*b*) how many of them were Indians; and

(*c*) whether there are any women permit-holders among Indians?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" (*a*) Two thousand one hundred and seventy-four permits during 1952 and 1,590 permits up to 31st October in 1953;

" (*b*) Four hundred and sixteen during 1952 and 360 up to 31st October in 1943;

" (*c*) Twenty-nine during 1952 and 19 up to 31st October in 1953."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" எத்தகைய அடிப்படையின் கீழும் இல்லாது மது பெர்மிட் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. மாதர்கள் பிரசவ காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு மது அளிப்பது போன்ற தனி திட்டம் உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" I am not aware of it."

Levy of surcharge on ryots for the consumption of electricity for agricultural operations.

* 169 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have ordered recently to levy a surcharge of 10 per cent on the consumption of electrical energy by ryots for agricultural operations; and

(*b*) if so, why?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) So that the surcharge levied on all consumers of electricity in the State may be brought to a uniform level and as it was felt that the exemption was not really necessary."